REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are rejected. Claims 1, 6, 9, 12, and 16 are independent claims. Claims 1-17 are pending.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-14 of US Patent 6,909,386.

In response, applicants have attached a fully executed terminal disclaimer pursuant to 37 CFR §1.321(c).

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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